

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An improved alkaline dietary and/or therapeutic supplement composition for human consumption and consisting essentially of, in combination:

a solid dietary and/or therapeutic supplement agent selected from the group consisting of water soluble acidic vitamins, bioflavonoids, minerals, trace minerals, whole plant food products containing phytonutrients, herbs, and mixtures of the foregoing that are known to promote health and well being and each having an initial pH of 6 or less which upon ingestion with food or a beverage would limit the availability of the agent to the person ingesting the agent; and

an alkaline ~~electrolyte~~ additive containing a mixture of calcium, magnesium and potassium electrolytes, said calcium electrolyte being selected from the group consisting of calcium hydroxide, chloride, di-phosphate, carbonate, gluconate, bicarbonate, phosphate and sulfate, the magnesium electrolyte being selected from the group consisting of magnesium hydroxide, chloride, di-phosphate, carbonate, gluconate, bicarbonate, phosphate and sulfate, and the potassium electrolyte being selected from the group consisting of potassium hydroxide, chloride, di-phosphate, carbonate,

gluconate, bicarbonate, phosphate and sulfate electrolytes, ~~at least about 8% by weight of the alkaline electrolyte additive being provided in combination with the agent;~~ the magnesium electrolyte being present in an amount of from about 30% to about 100% of the calcium electrolyte, the ratios of the calcium, magnesium, and potassium electrolytes respectively on a weight to weight basis being about 2/1/1, 2/1/1.5, 2/1/2, 1/0.5/1, 1/0.75/1, 2/0.75/2, 2/1.25/2, 1/0.5/0.5, and 2/0.75/0.75, and 2/1.25/0.75, and the amount of the alkaline electrolyte additive being sufficient based on the aggregate initial pH of the agent to raise the pH of the combination of the supplement agent and the additive to a pH of from about 8 to about 12.5 to cause rapid extracellular, intercellular, and intracellular movement of the agent into all cell structures of the person's body, such that upon ingestion of the alkaline composition with food or a beverage, the presence of the alkaline electrolyte additive increases the effectiveness and functional utilization of the supplement agent while the alkaline composition is in the person's stomach.

2. (Previously Presented) An improved dietary and/or therapeutic supplement composition as set forth in claim 1, wherein a sufficient amount of said alkaline electrolyte additive is included in the composition to cause the pH thereof to be in the range of about 8 to about 10.5.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) An improved dietary and/or therapeutic supplement composition as set forth in claim 1 [[14]], wherein said supplement agent includes ascorbic acid.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Withdrawn): A method of improving the availability of a dietary and/or supplement agent that is ingested with food or a beverage consisting essentially of the steps of:

providing a quantity of a solid dietary and/or therapeutic supplement agent selected from the group consisting of water soluble acidic vitamins, bioflavonoids, minerals, trace minerals, whole plant food products containing phytonutrients, herbs, and mixtures of the foregoing that are known to promote health and well being and each having a pH of 6 or less which upon ingestion with food or a beverage would limit the availability of the agent to the person ingesting the agent; and

adding a sufficient amount of an alkaline electrolyte additive selected from the group consisting of calcium, magnesium and potassium electrolytes, a sufficient amount of the alkaline electrolyte additive being provided in combination with the agent to raise the pH of the combination to a pH of from about 8 to about 12.5 such that upon ingestion of the alkaline composition with food or a beverage, the presence of the alkaline electrolyte additive increases the effectiveness and functional utilization of

the agent while the alkaline composition is in the person's stomach by enhancing rapid extracellular, intercellular, and intracellular movement of the agent into all cell structures of the person's body.

12. (Withdrawn): A method as set forth in claim 11 wherein a sufficient amount of said alkaline electrolyte additive is added to the composition to cause the pH thereof to be in the range of about 8 to about 10.5.

13. (Withdrawn) A method as set forth in claim 11, wherein said electrolyte additive is selected from the group consisting of hydroxides, chlorides, chelates, di-phosphates, oxides, stearates, carbonates, gluconates, bicarbonates, phosphates and sulfates of calcium, magnesium and potassium.

14. (Currently Amended) An improved alkaline dietary and/or therapeutic supplement composition for human consumption and consisting essentially of, in combination:

a solid methylsulfonylmethane supplement agent having an initial pH of 6 or less which upon ingestion with food or a beverage would limit the availability of the agent to the person ingesting the agent; and

an alkaline ~~electrolyte~~ additive containing a mixture of calcium, magnesium and potassium electrolytes, said calcium electrolyte being selected from the group consisting of calcium hydroxide, chloride, di-phosphate, carbonate, gluconate, bicarbonate, phosphate and sulfate, the magnesium electrolyte being selected from the group consisting of magnesium hydroxide, chloride, di-phosphate, carbonate, gluconate,

bicarbonate, phosphate and sulfate, and the potassium electrolyte being selected from the group consisting of potassium hydroxide, chloride, di-phosphate, carbonate, gluconate, bicarbonate, phosphate and sulfate electrolytes, at least about 8% by weight of the alkaline electrolyte additive being provided in combination with the agent, the magnesium electrolyte being present in an amount of from about 30% to about 100% of the calcium electrolyte, the ratios of the calcium, magnesium, and potassium electrolytes respectively on a weight to weight basis being about 2/1/1, 2/1/1.5, 2/1/2, 1/0.5/1, 1/0.75/1, 2/0.75/2, 2/1.25/2, 1/0.5/0.5, and 2/0.75/0.75, and 2/1.25/0.75, and the amount of the alkaline electrolyte additive being sufficient based on the aggregate initial pH of the agent to raise the pH of the combination of the supplement agent and the additive to a pH of from about 8 to about 12.5 to cause rapid extracellular, intercellular, and intracellular movement of the agent into all cell structures of the person's body, such that upon ingestion of the alkaline composition with food or a beverage, the presence of the alkaline electrolyte additive increases the effectiveness and functional utilization of the supplement agent while the alkaline composition is in the person's stomach.

15. (Previously Presented) An improved alkaline dietary and/or therapeutic supplement composition as set forth in claim 14, wherein the supplement agent includes a quantity of a bioflavonoid, the combination of methylsulfonylmethane and bioflavonoid having an initial pH less than about 6, the amount of the alkaline electrolyte additive being sufficient based on the

aggregate initial pH of the agent to raise the pH of the combination to said level of from about 8 to about 12.5.

16. (Currently Amended) An improved alkaline dietary and/or therapeutic supplement composition for human consumption and consisting essentially of, in combination:

a solid glucosamine supplement agent having an initial pH of 6 or less which upon ingestion with food or a beverage would limit the availability of the agent to the person ingesting the agent; and

an alkaline ~~electrolyte~~ additive containing a mixture of calcium, magnesium and potassium electrolytes, said calcium electrolyte being selected from the group consisting of calcium hydroxide, chloride, di-phosphate, carbonate, gluconate, bicarbonate, phosphate and sulfate, the magnesium electrolyte being selected from the group consisting of magnesium hydroxide, chloride, di-phosphate, carbonate, gluconate, bicarbonate, phosphate and sulfate, and the potassium electrolyte being selected from the group consisting of potassium hydroxide, chloride, di-phosphate, carbonate, gluconate, bicarbonate, phosphate and sulfate electrolytes, at least about 8% by weight of the alkaline electrolyte additive being provided in combination with the agent, the magnesium electrolyte being present in an amount of from about 30% to about 100% of the calcium electrolyte, the ratios of the calcium, magnesium, and potassium electrolytes respectively on a weight to weight basis being about 2/1/1, 2/1/1.5, 2/1/2, 1/0.5/1, 1/0.75/1, 2/0.75/2, 2/1.25/2, 1/0.5/0.5, and 2/0.75/0.75, and

2/1.25/0.75, and the amount of the alkaline electrolyte additive being sufficient based on the aggregate initial pH of the agent to raise the pH of the combination of the supplement agent and the additive to a pH of from about 8 to about 12.5 to cause rapid extracellular, intercellular, and intracellular movement of the agent into all cell structures of the person's body, such that upon ingestion of the alkaline composition with food or a beverage, the presence of the alkaline electrolyte additive increases the effectiveness and functional utilization of the supplement agent while the alkaline composition is in the person's stomach.

17. (Previously Presented) An improved alkaline dietary and/or therapeutic supplement composition as set forth in claim 15 wherein the agent includes a quantity of methylsulfonylmethane, the combination of glucosamine and methylsulfonylmethane having an initial pH less than about 6, the amount of the alkaline electrolyte additive being sufficient based on the aggregate initial pH of the agent to raise the pH of the combination to said level of from about 8 to about 12.5.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) An improved alkaline dietary and/or therapeutic supplement composition wherein the composition consists essentially of an admixture of

500 mg glucosamine sulfate
900 mg methylsulfonylmethane (MSM),
20 mg 20% Boswellia extract,
100 mg dl-phenylalanine,
60 mg ascorbic acid,

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5 mg citrus bioflavonoids,
50 mg magnesium carbonate,
50 mg potassium carbonate,
100 mg calcium gluconate,
10 mg ginseng extract,
10 mg 24% ginkgo biloba extract,
15 mg pyridoxine hydrochloride, and
180 mg 10% gla borage powder extract.